5 Dewsbury (William)

To all the faithful and ſuffering Members, in all Holes, Priſons and Gaoles, for the Word of God, and Teſtimony of Jeſus Chriſt, with the reſt of the Faithfull, wherever ſcattered upon the face of the earth.

DEar Brethren and Siſters, hear the word of the Lord God: Thus ſaith the Lord, though you now drink the cup of adverſity, and eat the bread of affliction, and are trampled upon, as though you were not worthy to live upon the earth; yet, notwithſtanding all the fury of Men, you are reſolved in the ſtrength of my Spirit for ever to be deprived of the ſweet enjoyment of Wife, Husband, tender Children, Parents, all outward poſſeſſions, liberty and life, before you deny the teſtimony of my Name before the Sons of Men: Oh! you dear and tender Children, who love not your lives unto death this day, that you may finiſh a good teſtimony for the glory of my Name, ſaith the Lord God; Lift up your heads in the light of my Covenant, and believe in my Name, for I am near unto you, ſaith the mighty God of ſafety; and let not any weight or burdens lie upon you, for I will be more then Husband to Wife, and more then Wife to Husband, or Parents to Children, or Children to Parents; yea, I will be the Husband of the Widow, and a Father of the Children who are deprived of their tender Parents for my Name ſake: I will enlarge your borders in the life of my Righteouſneſſe: you that ſuffer in true innocency will I refreſh with the depth of my mercy yea, I will guard you with the Angels of my preſence, and all that deviſe miſchief againſt you ſhall be confounded before the glory of my power, with which I will keep and preſerve you in the word of my patience, and ſafety in my preſence, ſaith the Lord God: Therefore you dear Children who drink the deepeſt in ſufferings, think it not hard, for it is my purpoſe unto you all that hath not any eye to ſelf, but alone ſeeks my glory in all ye doe; I will make you more and more honourable in the glory of my life, and double my bleſſings upon you and yours; for I have beholden your integrity, and my bowels are mightily moved with compaſſion towards you; therefore am I ariſen for your ſakes this day, to declare unto you, my ſuffering people, that not a hair of your heads ſhall periſh, neither ſhall you be deteined in Priſons and deſolate holes any longer then I have determined ſhall be for your eternal good, and the praiſe and glory of my Name for ever: Therefore in my life ſtand faithfull in reſiſtance of every evil thought, or what ever would cauſe you to murmure, or deſire any thing, but what you know will advance my praiſe: And all be ſubject to the meaſure of my light and life, and let not any ſeek a preheminence or eſteem amongſt men, neither let ſelf-ſtriving, nor ſelf-ſerving have power in any, but in true humility, love and meekneſſe watch one over another, and let the ſtrong take the weak by the hand, that you may all gently, in meekneſſe, love and holy fear, dread my Name, and ſerve one another, that your love may be manifeſted unto me (ſaith the Lord your God) and one unto another, in the naked ſimplicitie of your ſpirits; then will I make my dwelling with you, and my dreadfull glorious preſence, you ſhall all feel mighty in you and amongſt you, moving you in the exerciſe of my Spirit, to the renown of my Name, and comfort of one another, and I will crown you with heavenly bleſſings, and the glory of my powerfull life, and you ſhall praiſe my Name for ever, that ever I made you my Iewels, and counted you worthy to ſuffer for the teſtimony of my Name: for I will go before you through all the waters and floods of affliction, and I will appear with you before all the Councils of the ſons of men, and my ſaving power ſhall compaſſe you about in the hot furnace of the fiery afflictions; Therefore truſt in my Name, ye my dear Children, and caſt all your care upon me; and if any of you ſeal your teſtimony in the word of my patience with your blood, I will take care of your tender Wives, Children or Parents, for whom your ſoules have been poured out unto me for their good- Therefore hear my word which is ſounded unto you from the throne of my grace and eternall glory; rejoyce not too much in Spirits being made ſubject, but throw down all your Crowns, that there be not a ſelf ſeeking, ſelf ſerving Spirit in the Family of my people, but all feel the birth immortall, raiſed up in the reſurrection of my life in you all, which truly makes Self of no reputation. So that all loftineſſe be laid low, and haughtineſſe in every one truly bowed down, that I the Lord God in you all, may be loved, obeyed and exalted, who is taking, and will take to me my great power to exalt the meek upon the earth, and reign over all the pride of the Children of men; that ſo my Sons may be brought from far, and my Daughters from the ends of the earth, in the ſight of all people, whom I will make to confeſſe in ſubjection to my power, that you are the beloved people of the moſt high God, and the righteous Seed whom the Lord hath bleſſed, and no weapon formed againſt you ſhall proſper but come to nought, which will be haſtned for your comfort, and certainly perform'd according to what is here declared, to your eternall joy; and you ſhall aſſuredly know the mouth of the Lord hath ſpoken it.

The word of the Lord, as before expreſſed, came upon me in the Common Gaol in Warwick, the 13th. of the firſt Moneth 1664. which conſtrained to be given forth from the Spirit of the Lord, through your Brother and Companion in tribulation and Kingdome of patience in the Lord Jeſus,

William Deusbury.

Send this abroad in the fear of the Lord, to be read amongſt the dear ſuffering people of the moſt high God.